

## MEMORIAL

RAY FLETCHER FARQUHARSON, M.B.E., M.B. M.D. (Hon.),  
D.Sc. (Hon.), L.L.B. (Hon.) F.R.C.P. (C), F.R.C.P.  
(Lond), F.A.C.P., F.R.S.C.

By HERBERT K. DETWEILER, M.D., F.R.C.P(C)., M.A.C.P.

Dr. Farquharson died suddenly of cardiac infarction on June 1st, 1965. In his passing, Canada, and indeed the United States as well, lost one of the most gifted and highly esteemed members of the medical profession on this continent. At the time of his death he was Chairman of the Medical Research Council of Canada; Member of the National Research Council of Canada; Emeritus Professor of Medicine, University of Toronto; Regent of the American College of Physicians; and member of the Board of Governors of York University, Toronto. He was admitted to membership in the American Clinical and Climatological Association in 1937 and was a member of Council and Vice-President in 1950.

He was born in Claude, Ontario, in 1897, graduated in Medicine from the University of Toronto in 1922. He interned in the Toronto General Hospital, took training in the University of Toronto in Pathology and was Senior Resident in Medicine at the General Hospital when in 1927 he was appointed Alexander McPhedran Research Fellow in Clinical Medicine at the Massachusetts General Hospital, Boston, and a Fellow in Medicine at Harvard.

On his return to Toronto he was appointed to the staff of the Medical Faculty and the Toronto General Hospital. In 1947 he became Professor of Medicine and Head of the Department, retiring in 1960, after which he devoted his time to the direction of the Medical Research activities of the National Research Council of Canada. He was active in the affairs of the Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Canada and served as its President 1945-1947. He was a member of the Defense Research Board of Canada 1949-1952; served in World War 1914-1918 in Canada with the 67th Battery; World War 1939-1945 with R.C.A.F. as Consultant in Medicine to the Director of Medical Services with rank of Wing Commander. In 1961 the Toronto General Hospital named their new Clinical Investigation Unit for him in recognition of the part played by him in introducing such facilities while he was Physician-in-Chief. In 1965, York University named its new Life Sciences Building after him "in honour of a famed medical scientist and teacher". Dr. Farquharson's main personal contributions to medical research were in the field of

calcium metabolism, hematology, pigment metabolism and endocrine disorders.

In 1931 he married Christina Jane Fraser and they had two daughters, one of whom is a graduate in Medicine of the University of Toronto and is pursuing research in Rochester, N. Y.

Ray was a man with hosts of friends. He was possessed of a kindly and friendly disposition and a charming and engaging personality. At the same time he had a well-disciplined and resolute mind and used it with consummate effect. He inspired students, interns and residents with his own high ideals and his staff with loyalty and devotion. His leadership was felt and followed at home and abroad. Probably no Canadian since Sir William Osler has left as great an imprint upon the practice of Medicine. He was that rare combination, a superb scientist and teacher who also succeeded as an efficient and purposeful administrator.

He was a popular member of the "Climatological"; he thoroughly enjoyed the meetings and associated social functions and will be sadly missed by all.